



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor
John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
PUBLIC LANDS DAY
SEPTEMBER 18, 2004

WHEREAS, America's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, gardens and other landmark areas throughout the nation that individually and collectively represent irreplaceable natural resources; and

WHEREAS, public lands provide locally accessible natural and cultural resources for environmental learning, wildlife appreciation and recreation, and promote civic ideals that include shared stewardship and recognition of public ownership; and

WHEREAS, "Helping Hands for America's Lands" is a public/private partnership involving volunteers of all ages who give their time restoring and enhancing America's federal, state and local public lands; and

WHEREAS, land conservation builds awareness among urban dwellers with concern about planned development, shared land use, preservation of wild areas and natural habitats, and the benefits realized by diligent restoration and enhancement efforts; and

WHEREAS, an alliance between private citizens, land managers and community leaders improves the condition of publicly held lands for the greater enjoyment and enrichment of all Americans; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 18, 2004, **PUBLIC LANDS DAY** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/
John Hoeven
Governor

Attest:

/s/
Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State